Date: August 25, 2021

To: Chief School Administrators, Charter School and Renaissance School Project Leads

Route To: District Test Coordinators

From: Lisa Gleason, Ed.D., Assistant Commissioner

Division of Academics and Performance

Deadline: October 1, 2021

2021-2022 Statewide Assessment Schedule and Parental Notification of Standardized Assessments

This memo provides the 2021-2022 statewide assessment schedule and reminds school districts, charter schools and renaissance school projects of statutory requirements (*N.J.S.A.* 18A: 7C-6.6) to annually notify parents or guardians by October 1 of any statewide student assessment or commercially developed standardized assessment that will be administered over the course of the school year. Districts are encouraged to schedule the administration of state and local assessments within the context of their local scope and sequence to maximize the amount of instructional time students have before participating in the assessments.

If a school district or charter school elects to administer an additional commercially developed standardized assessment after October 1, then the information shall be provided within 30 days of that determination.

Districts are required to provide the following information to parents or guardians:

- the subject area of the assessment;
- the grade levels covered by the assessment;
- the date or range of potential dates for administration of the assessment;
- the time allotted for the student to take and complete the assessment;
- any accommodations or accessibility options available to students;
- information on how and when the student and his/her parent or guardian can access both sample questions and answers from the assessment, as well as the student's results; and
- whether the assessment is required by the federal government, state government, or local district.

The New Jersey Department of Education's Office of Assessments has developed a <u>sample template</u> to support districts in implementing the provisions of this statute. It is not required that districts adopt the template, but it is required that the above-mentioned information is disseminated to parents/guardians by October 1 of each year or within 30 days of an assessment determination made after October 1.

Additionally, details regarding the administration windows for the New Jersey statewide assessments are provided in the <u>2021-2022 statewide assessment schedule</u>. This provides the schedule for all 2021-2022 statewide assessments, including the Fall 2021 Start Strong Assessment window first announced via <u>broadcast memo</u> on April 14, 2021.

For additional information, contact the Office of Assessments at (609) 376-3960 or assessment@doe.nj.gov.

c:	Members, State Board of Education Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education NJDOE Staff Statewide Parent Advocacy Network Garden State Coalition of Schools NJ LEE Group